

Expressions Describing Location of a Path of Movement in Modern Polish (Abstract)

The subject of interest in this work is this part of the linguistic image of the world contained in the Polish language, which concerns *the dynamic location*, i.e. the location of material beings moving in physical space with a progressive movement of a constant direction, which movement is also called *displacement*. The research is onomazjologically oriented: from the concept to its exponents and is aimed at reconstructing the semantic model of location of the aforementioned group of objects. For greater clarity of the description, the study has been focused on the basic situation for dynamic location, namely: on the displacement of a single localized object (*obiekt lokalizowany* -O_L) against a single Reference Object (*lokalizator* - L) remaining at rest.

The work consists of two parts. The first one, fundamental, includes: specifying the concept of dynamic location, finding its exponents in Polish and then a comprehensive semantic description of the selected group of spatial determiners. They are complex expressions and simple lexical units (prepositions, adverbs, adverbial pronouns) connotated by the verbs of movement (Grochowski 1974, Bojar 1979, Ferm 1990) and answering questions: *skąd?* / *dokąd?* / *w jakim kierunku?* *którędy?* ‘from where?’ where to?/ in which direction? which way?’. The complement of this set are verbal spatial prefixes. The list of chosen diagnostic verbs of motion, as well as the explanations of the meanings of the prepositions and prefixes accepted in the work are included in annexes.

The second part of the dissertation has an exemplifying character because it contains more detailed descriptions of the meaning, contexts of occurrence and communication functions of three groups of determinants describing the direction of O_L`s displacement. They have been chosen as the representatives of the basic cognitive strategies of establishing route directions which go as follows:

1. orientation towards any external object or its part, eg *ku*, *w kierunku X*, *w stronę X* ‘toward, in the direction of X, lit. in the side of X’;
2. orientation designated anthropomorphically, eg *do przodu*, *naprzód*, ‘lit. to the front, forward’, *przed siebie* ahead;
3. absolute orientation towards geographical parts of the world, e.g. *na północ*, north, *z zachodu*, from the west.

The methodological basis of the description is a structural model of location created by Adam Weinsberg (1970, 1973) and later on used in many Polish linguistic works on spatial issues. It captures the relationship of the location as composed of several components, among

which the most important role is played by *the spatial behavior of the object* (*zachowanie przestrzenne*, ZP) and the *emplacement* (*usytuowanie*- UP_L) of the area to which the displacement is being related. In addition to the structural tools of linguistic analysis (component semantics), conceptual interpretations related to the linguistic image of space presented by cognitive scientists (Talmy 1975, Svorou 1994, Maciejewski 1996, Przybylska 2002) are also used in the interpretation and systematization of the language data.

The first statement important for the description is that the linguistic image of the dynamic location results from the human perceptual abilities. It takes the form of the set of locations of the O_L related as momentarily successive locations (Miller, Johnson –Laird 1976). In this situation, the observer is unable to determine the location of the object, and only can indicate the route of displacement. One does this by using the terms communicating the location of the source (PW), goal (PD) or intermediate segments (PX) of the displacement route, namely the exponents of ablative, allative or perlative ZP.

The next observation concerns the classes of formal determiners making up functional field of the dynamic location. They differ in their morphosyntactic properties and in the scope of communicated spatial content. Particularly noteworthy in this respect are verbal prefixes, which fall into several types of correlation with other exponents of locations present in a given utterance. They can create *coupled prefix-preposition exponents* (*wykładniki sprzężone*) typical of a dynamic location, in which the prefix clarifies the meaning of a polysemous preposition. They can also be a component part of *coordinated phrases* (*frazy skoordynowane*), where the prefix enriches the meaning of a spatial determiner (e.g. *Pies wybiega zza krzaków* vs *Pies biegnie zza krzaków*). In turn, in *the complementary function*, the prefixes may point to a different point of the object's route than the adverbial accompanying the verb, eg. *wychodzić przed dom* ‘lit. to go out to the area in front of the house’, ie source: the prefix *wy-* and goal: the prepositional phrase.

In addition, as a result of the existence of several morphological classes of dynamic location exponents in modern Polish and their diversity in terms of the type and amount of spatial content transferred, three basic ways of linguistic information on the location of relevant route points of a moving object can be distinguished. These are:

a / **exact location** of relevant points of the route by their situational display (eg *Idź tamtędy!* ‘Go that way!’) or providing their spatial parameters (e.g. *Płyniemy do X.* ‘We are sailing to X’. *Nadjeżdża autobus.* ‘The bus is coming up’, *X wchodzi pod stół.* Lit. X is going into under the table;

b / **information that is not sufficiently defined** about the disposition of the route relevant points within the general area of O_L's displacement as in the sentence: *Możesz iść dokądkolwiek, byleś przyniósł mi te dokumenty* 'You can go anywhere, provided you bring me these documents'; in the role of determiners of this quantifying operation there are various classes of indefinite adverbial pronouns;

c) **determining the direction of the route** according to three different conceptual strategies mentioned above; in the role of formal exponents occur then either prepositional phrases added to the verbs of displacement, e.g. *dreptać ku domowi* 'to tread towards the house' or adverbial phrases formed from the locative noun, e.g. *podciągnąć w górę* 'to pull sth up', *maszerować na zachód* 'to march west'.

After this initial characterization of individual classes of dynamic location exponents and the presentation of their role in the information transmission process, **a reconstruction of the linguistic dynamic location image** takes place based on the semantic analysis of language expressions communicating it. The determiners are discussed in relation to the values of the two basic semantic categories: spatial behavior of O_L and related **translimitation** (*translimitacja*)¹ and emplacement of P_L or **the disposition** (*rozmieszczenie*)² of some of its fragments.

[1] O_L's **spatial behavior** is the basic category that organizes the functional field of a dynamic location. It is the ZP opposition that divides the functional field of the dynamic location determiners into three smaller subfields defined by the above-mentioned basic questions: *skąd?* / *dokąd?* / *w jakim kierunku? którędy?* 'where from? where to? / in which direction? which way?'. **The new elements** that the dissertation adds to the description of this semantic category **are: the distinction of three conceptual images of the perlocative ZP** (i. e.: traversing the area: *jechać przez most* 'to go over the bridge', permeating through L: *sączyć się przez bibułę* 'to ooze through the filter paper', climbing over L: *przełazić przez mur* 'to climb over the wall') and **introducing the fourth type of ZP, called ambilaterality** (*ambilateralność*) which is ascribed to objects moving along the vertical axis. This type of

¹ **Translimitation** and **limitativity** (*limitatywność*) are two kinds of meanings within the **P_L boundary relevance**, i.e. an optional category of the localization model, which clarifies the relation of O_L's spatial behavior, referring to the displacement of the object not to the entire P_L, but only to its boundary. This limit may be exceeded during the movement (translimitation, eg *Ship enters the port*), or it may only serve as a reference point (limitativity, eg. *The ship leaves* (odpływa od) *the wharf. The ship reaches* (dopływa do) *the wharf*). This category is a transfer to the spatial parameters of a more general concept of efficiency, which is one of the aspect-specific values of the function of verbal prefixes (Klemensiewicz1951).

² **Disposition** - an optional category of the location model. Its definitional feature is the existence of one or more limited locating spaces, contained within a known area, ie the superior (for example, *rozjechać się po kraju* ('to be leaving for places all over the country, to scatter'), *przybiec zewsząd* 'to come running from everywhere').

movement is mentally related to PW and PD simultaneously, eg *wzlatywać [z ziemi] pod chmury* ‘to fly [from the earth] under the clouds’. In the further part of the chapter, corresponding allative, ablative and perlative determiners were systematized in the form of tables. Moreover, lexical gaps in this system were indicated (eg one ablative preposition *z* + *gen* is the equivalent of three allative ones: *do* + *gen*, *na* + *acc*, *w* + *acc*) as well as neutralizations of semantic differences concerning location. One of the latter applies to prepositional phrases with “place-motion” (*lokatywno-latywne*) prepositions, which can mean both static location (eg *Chmury wiszą nad lasem* ‘Clouds hang over the forest’), as well as dynamic, perlative one (eg *Samolot leci nad lasem* ‘The plane flies over the forest’). The meaning of such prepositional phrases is always determined by the verb connoting them, and their use in the function of the path location has been called **contextual perlativity** as opposed to the **proper one**, i.e. communicated with the preposition *przez* + *acc* ‘across, through’ and verbs with the prefix *prze-* (eg *Prom płynie / przepływa przez kanał* ‘A boat is sailing across / is “cross- sailing” the channel’).

The second semantic category, constitutive of the description of the dynamic location model, is [2] emplacement of the locating space. The meaning components of the location determiners belonging to this category have been systematized according to the conceptual spatial regions.

The superior opposition within the semantic category UP_L contrasts **#directional orientation**³ (*zorientowanie lokomocyjne*) which determines the direction of the route of displacement (see point c /, p.2) to other emplacement values that accurately indicate the location of relevant points of the route (see point a/). In the latter group of determiners, the basic spatial regions are common to both types of location: dynamic and static, but the resources of their exponents and forms of expression are not identical, as discussed in more detail in the Conclusions of the paper.

This reasonably precise location of the source, path and goal can be made on the basis of only spatial criteria or may take into account the social situation of L, which is expressed by the quasi-spatial positioning of # domain # (eg *jechać do ciotki* ‘travel to the aunt’, *wychodzić od dentysty* ‘lit. go away from the dentist’). The criterion for the division of the remaining, exclusively spatial, location determiners is the opposition regarding the communication of the P_L emplacement in the #external region# of L or in its #internal region#. The latter region has three conceptual variants, namely: a / #container internality#:

³ The symbol #...# is used for conceptual space regions.

wchodzić do klasy ‘enter the classroom’, wychodzić z klasy ‘leave the class’, przechodzić przez tunel ‘go through the tunnel’; b / #”interior” of a plane surface #: biec na pole / z pola / przez pole ‘run to /run from /run across a field’; c / # “interior” a solid object#: zsuwać sieci w wodę ‘slip nets into the water’, wyciągać sieci z wody ‘pull the nets out of the water’, czołgać się przez zarośla ‘crawl through the undergrowth’.

In the #external region #, **the relevance of distance PL from the reference object L** and **the relevance of the spatial orientation of L** should be considered as further opposition features that differentiate the exponents of dynamic location. Within each of the two parts of this opposition, further specific oppositions can be distinguished. And so, the polarities of the distance relativity are: **a/** completely neutral as to the distance measure **#general “outer space”#** (eg *odholować jacht poza mieliznę* ‘to tow the yacht out of the shallows’, *przywędrować spoza Europy* ‘come from outside Europe’) and **b/** specified distance, presented as **#proximity#**, whose measure is graded from the general value (e.g. *przyskakać pod krzaki* ‘to hop under the bushes’, *przechodzić obok domu* ‘to walk past the house’, *doczołgać się do muru* ‘to crawl to the wall’), through the reach of the observer's eye (eg *nadbiega posłaniec* ‘a messenger comes near the door’, *odejść stąd!* ‘walk away from here!’), to the contact the O_L with the surface of the reference object L (eg, *wgramolić się na fotel* ‘to climb onto the armchair’, *spędzić kota z łóżka* ‘to spend a cat from the bed’).

The second opposition, concerning the area outside the L, namely the emplacement of the PL with respect to the spatial orientation of L, is also a two-step opposition. First of all, it contrasts such features as: **leveling (upoziomowanie)** - the L orientation with respect to the vertical axis and **layout (rozplanowanie)** - the L orientation with respect to the horizontal axis. Then on the vertical axis the following poles were distinguished: # up # and # down # (eg *wylatywać nad obłoki* ‘to fly up over/higher than the cloud’, *przefruwać nad ulicą* ‘to fly over the street’, *wyłażyć spod wagonów* ‘to get out from under the cars’, *czołgać się pod łóżko* ‘to crawl under the bed’), and on the horizontal axis - # forward # and # back # (eg *odchodzić z kwitkiem sprzed kasy* ‘lit. to leave the area in front of the ticket office, *dojechać przed ganek* lit. ‘to get to the front of the porch’, *popęznąć za krzaki* ‘to crawl behind the bushes’, *wyciągnąć zza szafy* ‘to pull sth out from behind the wardrobe’).

The kind of refinement of information about the **emplacement** of the locating space is [3] **a semantic category of disposition** (see footnote 2). In the functional field of dynamic location determiners, the exponents of this category are adverbial pronouns, by definition quantifying the domains to which they refer (Grzegorzczkowska 1975, 2001; Karolak 1999; Wierzbicka-Piotrowska 2011).

While analyzing the meaning of Polish spatial adverbial pronouns, we can distinguish two main values of the disposition category, which are implemented in the dynamic location model described in the dissertation. These are: **an undetermined disposition** (eg *którędyś, którydykolwiek, którydy indziej* ‘someway, any way, along a way different than expected’) and the general **disposition** (eg *zewsząd* ‘from everywhere’, *donikąd* ‘nowhere’). Thus, paradoxically, the refinement of information about UPL is -in this case- only on the designation of some parts of the route, and not on their precise placement. An interesting, though requiring a deeper examination, aspect of the characteristics of the pronominal location determiners is a specific situational frame motivating their use. It takes into account the degree of probability of communicated displacement, the state of personal knowledge of OL, or the strength of his/her will (eg *Może uda się którędyś wślizgnąć na zamek?* ‘Maybe you can slip into a castle someway?’).

The summary of the observations made in the work focuses on two issues: **first**, on the calculation of the most important similarities, but also the differences between expressing the static location and the dynamic location, and **secondly**, on the overall characteristics of the determiners locating individual points of the O_L’s route, ie source, goal and path.

Both types of locations share the same conceptual model of space and analogous ways of transmitting spatial information (see pkt. a /, b /, c / p.2). On the other hand, the specific features of the dynamic location determiners are: reference to the location of the O_L’s route and not the location of the moving O_L itself which results in the presence of a directional component in the sense of each determiner and –moreover- the dominance of information about the object’s ZP over information about the location of a given point of the route. This conclusion is due to the fact that the typical “motion” prepositions (*od* ‘from’, *z* ‘out of, from’, *do* ‘to’, *przez* ‘across, through’ *ku* ‘towards’) less accurately inform about UPL than the “place-motion” prepositions (eg *przy* ‘at’, *za* ‘behind’). Polysemy of the former causes that in isolation from the context they refer to several spatial regions simultaneously (eg *biec do matki* ‘to run to the mother – the person’ or ‘to mother’s place’ so the goal may be region #proximity# or # domain #). Prefixes, on their part, enrich the information about the object's ZP by determining the phase of displacement, initial: *odjeżdżać* vs *jechać* ‘leave vs drive’ or final: *wjeżdżać* vs *jechać* ‘enter vs drive’.

As for expressing **the location of the highlighted points of the route of movement**, it turns out that the functional subfields entitled *from where? where? / in what direction? which way?* are built on the principle of mutual symmetry. Nevertheless, there is no full equivalence between them. Most determiners represent the allative subfield. This is mainly

due to the large number of allative verbal prefixes that have neither ablative nor perlocative equivalents. The second factor is the fact that most of the #directional orientation# determiners are allative terms, e.g. *w kierunku*, *naprzód* 'towards, forward'. A relatively large number of allative spatial terms is a regularity not only in Polish (Weinsberg 1973, Ferm 1990) and perhaps reflects the teleological orientation of all conscious human activities.